

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/892,009

Examiner

Thu Khanh T. Nguyen

Applicant(s)

MISHRA ET AL.

Art Unit

1722

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Amendment filed 5/24/06.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 11, 17-20, 22-24 and 26, and are renumbered 1-9 respectively.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____:

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

The specification has been amended as follows:

Page 1, line 1, insert: This application is a divisional application of U.S. Application No. 09/429,148 filed 10/28/1999, now U.S. Patent No. 6,328,922.

Page 10, line 13, after "U.S. Patent Application Serial No.", insert: 09/428,932, now U.S. Patent No. 6,652,691 ;

Page 11, line 16, after "in the name of Yu et al.," insert now U.S. Patent No. 6,074,504;

Page 12, line 13, after "in the name of Grabowski et al.," insert now U.S. Patent No. 6,056,839.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. Claims 11, 17-20, 22-24, and 26 are allowed over the prior art of record.
3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Mammino et al (5,552,005) disclose an apparatus for forming a flexible imaging sheet, comprising a lower support member, a heating element (72) having a heatable flat surface which has a width of about 6mm (1/4 inches; col. 10, lines 62-65), means (76) for moving the heating strip toward and contact the flexible sheet (10; col. 11, lines 9-12), a welding tool (142) and a

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heatable finishing roller (145) for welding and finishing the end regions (12, 14) of the flexible member (10); wherein the welding tool and the heatable finishing roller is movable transversely across the seam region.

However, Mammino et al fails to disclose a rotatable compression wheel.

Nelson (5,087,495) teaches an apparatus for transferring xerographic images, comprising a pair of pressure elements, a pair of rotatable compression wheel (71, 75) having a Teflon surface parallel to the surface of the lower support member (col. 5, lines 66-68), wherein the lower support member and the upper heatable strip are directly contact the flexible imaging transfer sheet (Figs. 4-5).

However, Nelson fails to disclose a separate upper heatable strip having a smooth lower heatable flat surface in addition to the pressure rollers.

The combination of these references would not resulted in an apparatus for post treatment of al already welded seamed flexible imaging belt, comprising a smooth heatable strip in between the belt and the wheel in order to prevent protrusion, cracking and delamination to the welded belt during the compression process of the wheel.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

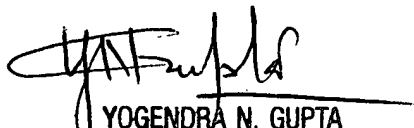
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4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thu Khanh T. Nguyen whose telephone number is 571-272-1136. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday- Friday, 6:30-4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Gupta Yogendra can be reached on 571-272-1316. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

TN


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